

For years, Yasser Arafat banned outside audits of PA finances while his government sent “martyr payments” to the families of homicide bombers. Yesterday the House Appropriations Committee supported a requirement for full, independent audits of the Palestinian Authority. These audits will bring an end to martyr payments for terrorist attacks against Israel. They will also strengthen the role of Salam Fayad, the Palestinian Finance Minister who exposed corruption by Arafat and many of his ministers. I helped to author this requirement and I’m proud of my colleagues for supporting the new Palestinian government with care and prudence.